

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

8. (Currently Amended) A device, comprising:
a main body portion defining a proximal end and a distal end and including a preshaped portion ~~having a predefined bend~~ between the proximal and distal ends having a predefined bend and configured to bend out of the predefined bend in response to an application of a force and return to the predefined bend in response to removal of the force;
a deflectable portion associated with the distal end of the main body portion and deflectable relative to the main body portion; and
at least one operative element carried by the deflectable portion.
9. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the main body portion comprises a catheter body.
10. (Withdrawn) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the preshaped portion comprises a preshaped wire biased to a predetermined curvature.
11. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the preshaped portion comprises a thermally formed tube biased to a predetermined curvature.
12. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the preshaped portion further comprises a preshaped support biased to the predetermined curvature.

13. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the deflectable portion comprises a steering spring.

14. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the preshaped portion defines a preshaped portion plane and the deflectable portion deflects within the preshaped portion plane.

15. (Withdrawn) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the preshaped portion defines a preshaped portion plane and the deflectable portion deflects out of the preshaped portion plane.

16. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the deflectable portion deflects in at least two directions.

17. (Withdrawn) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the deflectable portion deflects in at least four directions.

18. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the at least one operative element comprises an electrode.

19. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the at least one operative element comprises a plurality of spaced electrodes.

20. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:
a steering mechanism, operably connected to the deflectable portion, that bends the deflectable portion relative to the main body portion.

21. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the steering mechanism comprises at least one steering wire secured within the deflectable portion.

22. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 21, wherein the steering mechanism further comprises a handle connected to the proximal end of the main body portion and to the at least one steering wire.

23. (Currently Amended) A catheter, comprising:
a main body portion defining a proximal end and a distal end and including a preshaped portion ~~having a predefined bend~~ located proximal of, and substantially adjacent to, the distal end, the preshaped portion having a predefined bend, defining a preshaped portion plane, and configured to bend out of the predefined bend in response to an application of a force and return to the predefined bend in response to removal of the force;

a deflectable portion, including a steering spring defining first and second sides and configured to bend in the preshaped portion plane, associated with the distal end of the main body portion and deflectable relative to the main body portion;

first and second steering wires connected to first and second sides of the steering spring; and

at least one electrode carried by the catheter deflectable portion.

24. (Withdrawn) A catheter as claimed in claim 23, wherein the preshaped portion comprises a pre-bent wire biased to a predetermined curvature.

25. (Previously Presented) A catheter as claimed in claim 23, wherein the preshaped portion comprises a thermally formed tube biased to a predetermined curvature.

26. (Previously Presented) A catheter as claimed in claim 25, wherein the preshaped portion further comprises a preshaped support biased to the predetermined curvature.

27. (Withdrawn) A catheter as claimed in claim 23, wherein the steering spring comprises a first portion configured to deflect in the preshaped portion plane and a second portion configured to deflect out of the preshaped portion plane.

28. (Previously Presented) A catheter as claimed in claim 23, wherein the at least one electrode comprises a plurality of spaced electrodes.

29. (Previously Presented) A catheter as claimed in claim 23, further comprising

a handle connected to the proximal end of the main body portion and to the first and second steering wires.

30-51. (Canceled)

52. (New) A catheter as claimed in claim 23, wherein the steering spring is substantially flat.

53. (New) A device, comprising:

a main body portion defining a proximal end and a distal end and including a preshaped portion having a predefined bend between the proximal and distal ends;

a deflectable portion, associated with the distal end of the main body portion and deflectable relative to the main body portion, including a steering spring defining a distal end and a proximal end, the proximal end of the steering spring being located distal of the preshaped portion; and

at least one operative element carried by the deflectable portion.

54. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the main body portion comprises a catheter body.

55. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the preshaped portion comprises a preshaped wire biased to a predetermined curvature.

56. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the preshaped portion comprises a thermally formed tube biased to a predetermined curvature.

57. (New) A device as claimed in claim 56, wherein the preshaped portion further comprises a preshaped support biased to the predetermined curvature.

58. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the preshaped portion defines a preshaped portion plane and the deflectable portion deflects within the preshaped portion plane.

59. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the preshaped portion defines a preshaped portion plane and the deflectable portion deflects out of the preshaped portion plane.

60. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the deflectable portion deflects in at least two directions.

61. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the deflectable portion deflects in at least four directions.

62. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the at least one operative element comprises an electrode.

63. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, wherein the at least one operative element comprises a plurality of spaced electrodes.

64. (New) A device as claimed in claim 53, further comprising:
a steering mechanism, operably connected to the steering spring, that bends the steering spring relative to the main body portion.

65. (New) A catheter as claimed in claim 53, wherein the steering spring is substantially flat.